

# The Source



David  
J Jones

## Bright ideas

The Ideas Centre is the 'largest specialist library and resource centre of its kind in Australia', covering news from the Third World. Its *Third World Bulletin* may be known to you: it contains summaries of significant articles on development and developing countries appearing in a wide range of journals. Published 10 times a year, the bulletin covers topics such as aid, agriculture, commodities, energy, family planning, militarism, tourism and women. A wide range of resources, such as wall charts and kits, is also available from the Centre. Further information on the Centre, and subscriptions to *Third World Bulletin* (subscriptions \$40 per annum, ISSN 1033-5080) are available from the Ideas Centre, PO Box A100, Sydney South, NSW 2000.

## Name, rank and serial title

Which bank is ranked no 1? (No, not necessarily *that* bank). Which cars keep best? Who is the richest Australian? Which is the best-selling deodorant? Which is the top magazine among males aged 25-29? (Would you believe the *Australian Women's Weekly*?) These are some of the variety of rankings which were published in three major Australian business journals, and indexed in an enterprising little book from the Australian Graduate School of Management Library. Mary Anne Lea's *Australian business rankings index* fills a useful gap in the literature: such listings are not always easy to find in the usual periodical indexes. Citations are grouped by subject, which are arranged alphabetically. Each entry gives the title of the article, the basis of the ranking, the number of publications, firms or whatever ranked, the top-ranker, and the source. Mary Anne Lea's *Australian business rankings index* was published in 1990 by the AGSM Library, University of New South Wales, PO Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033, and costs \$18. (ISBN 1 86274 063 1)

## Gone West

WESTDOC (Western Region Documentation) is an information service which aims to identify, record and make available published and unpublished material on the western region of Melbourne. Four volumes of *Access to the West* have now been produced as part of this project, the latest amounting to 160 pages and containing

annotated references to unpublished materials, articles in newspapers, monographs and ephemera. Items listed are held at the Living Museum of the West or at Footscray Institute of Technology. Copies of *Access to the West*, volume 4, are available from FIT Library, PO Box 64, Footscray, Vic 3011, at \$20. Further information on the ambitious WESTDOC project is available from the WESTDOC Librarian, Brian Hubber, at FIT, phone (03) 688 4200. (ISBN 1 86272 405 9)

## What reptile is that?

Journalism in all its manifestations is the subject of a very useful reference guide which Jo A Cates has produced for Libraries Unlimited. It is a book which she badly needed when she started work at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St Petersburg, Florida, and surveyed their collection of 'scattered periodical and newspaper subscriptions, and some mildewed video-tapes', and wondered how to start building up a reference and research collection for the editors, reporters, copy editors, teachers and researchers who attended the Institute's seminars. In *Journalism: a guide to the reference literature*, Cates presents 728 lucidly and sometimes entertainingly annotated entries for general reference works, bibliographies, indexes, abstracts, directories, stylebooks, organisations, catalogues and periodicals devoted to the reptiles of the press and their arts and crafts. How do you find out about the journalism in space project? Where does a budding investigative journalist start? Which books show you how to write? How do you contact the Society of Silurians? A nice touch, that one. There is a reasonable subject index — not exhaustive — and a good author/title index, which really ought to have included entries for all the organisations listed in Chapter 12. Naturally the focus is North American, and the emphasis is on English-language materials. For Australian libraries supporting academic programs in journalism and mass media it will be a very useful acquisition. Jo A Cates' *Journalism: a guide to the reference literature* was published in 1990 by Libraries Unlimited and costs US\$38. My review copy was supplied by James Bennett Library Services. (ISBN 0 87287 716 7)

## A year to remember

The Source celebrated its 12th year. Australia almost got over its year-long celebration of two hundred years of white occupation. Waterfalls tautologically cascaded down Ayers Rock. 'They've cooked their goose, and now they have to lie on it,' opined Sir Joh. Newcastle tragically crumbled. Planes were grounded. Fitzgerald. Bond. What a year was 1989. The events of that year are chronicled in *Australia — the moments that mattered: the year in review*, which was published in 1990 by Lester-Townsend Publishing. In this very attractive package there is a day-by-day account of the main happenings — a headline and a sentence or so giving the basics — with plenty of illustrations and a chatty round-up for each month. The latter includes details of new shows and exhibitions in the state capitals, notable axings, sackings,

# Ansto

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

### INFORMATION CONFERENCE

THURSDAY 1 AUGUST 1991

### NOTICE TO VENDORS OF OH&S INFORMATION

Expressions of interest are sought from vendors of occupational health and safety information who would like to demonstrate their products at this conference to be held at Lucas Heights in Sydney.

The target audience for the conference is OH&S professionals from private industry and government departments, particularly those seeking to know more about the information sources available, their various formats, and the equipment required to use them.

ANSTO's Occupational Health and Safety Program and Library Services are collaborating to organise a program of formal papers in the morning and demonstration/workshop sessions in the afternoon.

If you are interested in exhibiting and/or demonstrating your products at this conference please contact Wendy Bartlett, Manager, Library Services, phone (02) 543 3742 or fax (02) 543 5097.

AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION

Private Mail Bag 1  
MENAI NSW 2234

appointments, retirements and demises, the top five films, books, videos and recordings of the month, business highlights (there were a few), and a goodly selection of quotable quotes, complete with contexts. Rounding off the work are short essays on ten key Australians of the year, ranging from Kylie Minogue to Peter Carey, and Lloyd Rees to Darrell Tree, a modest hero. People like Barry Jones add essays on topics dear to their hearts, outlining the issues of the year, and appendixes galore list awards and honours, parliamentary information, top companies, the 1989 Budget, statistics, sports results and the Commonwealth Constitution. Quite a rich mixture. But missing a vital ingredient: NO INDEX. It's still a useful publication, a marvellous and entertaining way of getting a takeaway taste of the times, and I hope its reception will encourage the publishers to persist (and to index). *Australia — the moments that mattered: the year in review* was published in 1990 by Lester-Townsend Publishing, 5 Glenmore Road, Paddington, NSW 2021. It costs \$24.95. (ISBN 0 949853 31 3; ISSN 1034-4756)

### Uncle Sam's best-sellers

Histories of women marines, space mathematics, how to deal with dropouts, a citizen's guide to Freedom of Information legislation and how to live with black bears are among the 1555 items listed and briefly

described in the second edition of *Guide to popular US Government publications*, which Libraries Unlimited published in 1990. Taking over the editorial reins from Leroy C Schwarzkopf is William C Bailey, who shares his predecessor's enthusiasm in drawing attention to the 'diversity, instruction and value found in government publications'. Federal 'belt-tightening' has seen some diminution in the number of candidate titles since the first, 1986, edition, and the changing conditions, and the effects of the Paper Reduction Act and the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Amendment are outlined in Bailey's introduction. Entries are arranged under broad subjects, with full Superintendent of Documents numbers, prices and brief annotations. There are good title and subject indexes. William C Bailey's *Guide to popular US Government publications*, second edition, was published by Libraries Unlimited in 1990 and costs US\$35. My review copy was supplied by James Bennett Library Services. (ISBN 0 87287 796 5)

### A film feast

Silver screen gourmets can now devour a new edition of one of their 'bibles'. The second edition of the first volume of the *International dictionary of films and filmmakers*, published by St James Press in 1990, provides a wealth of detail on 630 films from all over the world. This

edition is about 25 per cent larger than the first, which was very favourably received when it appeared in 1984. Each entry gives the major credits, all known release titles, awards won, leading players and their roles, provides an extensive list of references to monographs, periodical articles and significant contemporary reviews, and rounds off with a critical essay on each film. The essays are substantial: not the puffs which fill in the gaps between the pictures in coffee-table film books. Leading American and European writers on film really get to grips with their subject, describing each film's genesis, outlining its story line, and assessing its significance.

The dictionary is genuinely international in scope: Weir rubs shoulders with Wajda, Hitchcock with Herzog, Gillian Armstrong with Woody Allen. There are classics from the Indian subcontinent and Japan, Africa and the Middle East, as well as blockbusters from Hollywood and comedies from Ealing Studios.

As a guidebook for film study, this work is outstanding. As a reference work, with its detailed entries and full name index (listing every actor, writer, cinematographer, costume designer and composer mentioned), it is excellent. *International dictionary of films and filmmakers: 1: Films* second edition, was edited by Nicholas Thomas and published in 1990 by St James Press, who supplied my review copy. It costs \$55. (ISBN 1 55862 037 0) □

*Frank McMahon, a well-known Canberra poet, chose this poem for inCite at our invitation from his second book, The asphalt and the stars, published last year. The link with libraries is tenuous but important — his first book, Tide pools, saw publication with the support and encouragement of the then CSIRO Head Office Librarian, Doris Leadbetter. Doris has since become a poet and writer herself; we shall publish one of her poems in a future issue, and will be glad to print short poems from time to time by other ALIA members if they care to volunteer them.*

### Sojourner, as my father was

(Psalm 39, V12)

'My God, but he was beautiful, that man'. Her face snaps shut, eyes quieten and return to china, damask and decorum where we gently shredded relatives and aired the cupboards where our greying family leaves the things it thinks are skeletons. And now a shadow grows between us, something long since buried, but not deep enough. I read 'No Trespass' signs, look down, stir tea and see the shadow sharpen when it should have gone.

Beautiful? Her word, not mine. Surprising too — the family always saw him as a man who went a glass too far, who drifted, died outside the smothering cover of the clan and, worst of all, left nothing. Nothing turned her face away just now, nothing touched us and it hurt like nothing else I know. We see him differently, feel different guilts and then ache separate ways. No, beautiful would be the last word that I'd use. But then again — □

# THE TWO OF US

**DA BOOKS**  
Distributors of academic books at country of origin prices

**DA JOURNALS**  
Australia's fastest growing international subscription agent

**Who else in Australia understands all your library needs?**

**DA BOOKS & JOURNALS**

648 Whitehorse Road Mitcham 3132 Victoria Australia  
**Telephone:** (+613 or 03) 873 4411  
**Fax:** (+613 or 03) 873 5679 **ILANET:** 6009:MLN 302850